

Last Time: $L: V \rightarrow W$ linear

$$\ker(L) = \{v \in V : L(v) = 0_W\}.$$

$$\text{ran}(L) = \{L(v) : v \in V\}.$$

Prop: $L: V \rightarrow W$ linear.

① L is injective iff $\ker(L) = 0$

② L is surjective iff $\text{ran}(L) = W$.

NB: A bijective linear map (i.e. a linear map which is both injective and surjective) is a linear isomorphism... Very important...

Prop (Rank-Nullity Formula): Suppose $L: V \rightarrow W$ is a linear map. Then we have

$$\dim(V) = \underbrace{\dim(\ker(L))}_{\uparrow \text{nullity}(L)} + \underbrace{\dim(\text{ran}(L))}_{\uparrow \text{rank}(L)}.$$

Pf: Let $L: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear map. Let B_0 be a basis for $\ker(L) \leq V$. Now B_0 extends to a basis $B \supseteq B_0$ for V . Let $A := B \setminus B_0$.

Claim: $L(A) := \{L(a) : a \in A\} \subseteq \text{ran}(L)$ is a basis of $\text{ran}(L)$.

Note $L(A)$ spans $\text{ran}(L)$ (because every element of $\text{ran}(L)$ can be expressed as:

$$\left[L\left(\sum_{b \in B} c_b b\right) \right] = L\left(\sum_{b \in B_0} c_b b + \sum_{a \in A} c_a a\right) \\ = L\left(\sum_{b \in B_0} c_b b\right) + L\left(\sum_{a \in A} c_a a\right)$$

notation trick...

Point: Break up

the sum by inclusion in B_0 or A

$$= \sum_{b \in B_0} c_b L(b) + \sum_{a \in A} c_a L(a)$$

$$= 0_w + \sum_{a \in A} c_a L(a)$$

$$= \sum_{a \in A} c_a L(a)$$

b/c every elt of V can be expressed in this way (i.e. using basis B)

So $L(A)$ spans $\text{ran}(L)$. To see $L(A)$

is linearly indep., suppose $\left[\sum_{i=1}^n c_i L(a_i) = 0_w \right]$

Thus $L\left(\sum_{i=1}^n c_i a_i\right) = 0_w$, so $\sum_{i=1}^n c_i a_i \in \ker(L)$.

Hence $\sum_{i=1}^n c_i a_i + \boxed{\sum_{b \in B_0} 0 b}$ is the unique expression for $\sum_{i=1}^n c_i a_i$ in terms of the basis B .

But $\sum_{i=1}^n c_i a_i \in \ker(L)$, so $c_i = 0$ for all i .

Hence $L(A)$ is linearly independent. Thus

$L(A)$ is a basis for $\text{ran}(L)$. But

$$B_0 \cup A = B, \text{ so } \#B = \#B_0 + \#A.$$

On the other hand, $\#B = \dim(V)$, $\#B_0 = \dim(\ker(L))$

$\#L(A) = \dim(\text{ran}(L))$. Hence, we have

$$\boxed{\dim(V) = \dim(\ker(L)) + \#A} \quad \text{Now we must show}$$

$\#A = \#L(A)$. If $\#A > \#L(A)$, then there are $a, a' \in A$ with $L(a) = L(a')$; But then $L(a-a') = 0_w$

So $a - a' \in \ker(L)$, so $B_0 \cup \{a, a'\}$ is linearly dependent, contradicting our assumption $B = B_0 \cup A \geq B_0 \cup \{a, a'\}$ is a basis. Thus $\#A \leq \#L(A) \leq \#A$.

→ Hence
$$\begin{aligned} \dim(V) &= \dim(\ker(L)) + \#A \\ &= \dim(\ker(L)) + \#L(A) \\ &= \dim(\ker(L)) + \dim(\text{ran}(L)) \\ &= \text{nullity}(L) + \text{rank}(L). \end{aligned}$$

Ex: Suppose $L: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{15}$ has $\text{nullity}(L) = 7$ and L is surjective. Q: what is $\dim(V)$?

Sol: by the rank-nullity formula, $\dim(V) = \text{nullity}(L) + \text{rank}(L)$.

$\text{nullity}(L) = 7$, and $\text{ran}(L) = \mathbb{R}^{15}$, so $\text{rank}(L) = 15$.

Hence $\dim(V) = 7 + 15 = 22$.

Ex: Suppose $L: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is linear.

Q: what can $\text{rank}(L)$ and $\text{nullity}(L)$ be?

Sol: The rank-nullity formula yields

$$\left[3 = \dim(\mathbb{R}^3) = \text{nullity}(L) + \text{rank}(L) \right] \quad \sim \quad 0 \leq \text{rank}(L) \leq 2$$

OTOH, $\text{rank}(L) \in \{0, 1, 2\}$.

If $\text{rank}(L) = 1$: $\text{nullity}(L) = 3 - 1 = 2$

If $\text{rank}(L) = 2$: $\text{nullity}(L) = 3 - 2 = 1$

If $\text{rank}(L) = 0$: $\text{nullity}(L) = 3 - 0 = 3$

Thus $1 \leq \text{nullity}(L) \leq 3$.

Point: Every linear transformation from $\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ has a nontrivial kernel!

In fact ...

Cor: If $m < n$ and $L: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is linear, then L is not injective.

Pf: $\dim(\text{dom}(L)) = \dim(\ker(L)) + \dim(\text{ran}(L))$, so

$$n = \dim(\ker(L)) + \dim(\text{ran}(L)). \quad \text{Moreover,}$$

$$0 \leq \dim(\text{ran}(L)) \leq \dim(\mathbb{R}^m) = m \quad (\text{b/c } \text{ran}(L) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m).$$

$$\text{Hence } n = \dim(\ker(L)) + \dim(\text{ran}(L)) \leq \dim(\ker(L)) + m.$$

$$\text{So } 0 < n - m \leq \dim(\ker(L)). \quad \text{Hence } \ker(L) \neq \{0_v\},$$

so L is not injective. \square

Ex: Let $L: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear map. Define for all

$$U \subseteq W, \quad L^{-1}U := \{v \in V : L(v) \in U\}. \quad \text{Prove}$$

$$L^{-1}U \subseteq V. \quad \text{Q: What can you say about } \dim(L^{-1}U)?$$

Hint: Rank nullity formula, apply to $L: L^{-1}U \rightarrow U$...

Lemma: Suppose $L: V \rightarrow W$ and $Q: W \rightarrow U$ are linear.

Then $Q \circ L: V \rightarrow U$ is linear.

(i.e. Compositions of linear maps are linear maps).

Recall: The composition of two functions $f: A \rightarrow B$

and $g: B \rightarrow C$ is the map $g \circ f: A \rightarrow C$

defined by $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$ for all $x \in A$.

Remember: Composition of functions is associative...

$$\text{i.e. } h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f.$$

Pf (Lemma): Exercise. \smile

\square

Point: Compositions of linear maps can be used to produce more linear maps \smile

Defn: A linear isomorphism of vector spaces V and W is a linear map $L: V \rightarrow W$ which is bijective.

V and W are isomorphic when there is an isomorphism between them (and we write $V \cong W$).

Ex: Claim $\mathbb{R}^4 \cong \text{Mat}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$.

Pf: We construct an explicit isomorphism.

Look at bases $\mathcal{E}_4 = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4\}$ and

$\mathcal{B} = \{b_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, b_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, b_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, b_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\}$.

Left to you: \mathcal{B} is a basis of $\text{Mat}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$.

[Define $L: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \text{Mat}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$ by linearly extending

$L(e_i) = b_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq 4$.] Left to you:

$L\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ z & w \end{pmatrix}$. To see L is injective:

$\star L\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ z & w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow x=y=z=w=0$

$\Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Hence $\ker(L) = \{0\}$.

To see L is surjective, note $\text{ran}(L) \supset \mathcal{B}$, which is a basis for $\text{Mat}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$, so $\text{ran}(L) = \text{Mat}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$ yields L is surjective.

Hence L is bijective and linear, so L is an isomorphism, yielding $\mathbb{R}^4 \cong \text{Mat}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$. \square

NB: Nothing special about this example...

All we needed to make this argument was that the vector spaces had the same dimension!

Prop: Two vector spaces are isomorphic if and only if they have the same dimension.

pf: Let V and W be vector spaces.

(\Rightarrow): Assume V and W are isomorphic. Thus there is an isomorphism $L: V \rightarrow W$. Let B be a basis of V . $L(B)$ is a basis for W by the same argument we made when proving the rank-nullity formula: $B = \emptyset \cup B$ and \emptyset is a basis for $\{0_V\} = \ker(L)$. Hence, by injectivity $\dim(V) = \#B = \#L(B) = \dim(W)$.

(\Leftarrow): Assume V and W have the same dimension.

Let B be a basis of V and A a basis of W .

By assumption, $\#B = \dim(V) = \dim(W) = \#A$. Let

f be any bijection $f: B \rightarrow A$. Extend f linearly to $F: V \rightarrow W$ (by a previous proposition). Because A is a basis (hence linearly independent), one can show $\ker(F) = \{0\}$

(i.e. F is injective). OTOH $\text{ran}(F) \supseteq F(B) = A$

So $\text{ran}(F) = W$. Hence F is bijective.

